

Remarks

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application and stand rejected. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 15, 16, 21, and 23-25 have been amended.

Claim 1 is directed to a switching device and has been amended to require a computer readable medium having specified instructions and a processor for executing those instructions. Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification on page 6, line 5 through page 8, line 16. Claim 2 and 9 depend from Claim 1 and have been amended to maintain consistency with Claim 1.

Claims 10 and 16 are each directed to a computing system that includes a switching device. Claims 10 and 16 have been amended to specify capabilities of the switching device. Support for the amendments can be found in the Specification on page 6, line 5 through page 8, line 16.

Claim 21 is directed to a method for controlling computing devices and has been amended to include a step of maintaining a list of available computing devices. Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification on page 6, line 5 through page 8, line 16. Claim 24 depends from Claim 21 and has been amended to maintain consistency with Claim 21.

Claim 25 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions that when executed by a stitching device perform specified tasks. Claim 25 has been amended to specify a task of maintaining a list of available computing devices. Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification on page 6, line 5 through page 8, line 16.

Consequently, the amendments do not add new matter.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figs. 1 and 2. Proposed amendments to those figures accompany this response. Should the amendments prove acceptable, a new set of formal drawings is also included.

CLAIMS 21-24

Claims 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable over USPN 6,664,949 issued to Amro.

Amro discloses a wireless peripheral such as a keyboard that can be used

to interact with one of a selected group of computers. *See Amro, Abstract.* The keyboard includes wireless transmitter (no receiver) and a computer selector (reference 203 in Amro, Fig. 2) for selecting one of the computers to interact with. *See Amro, Abstract.* Computer selector 203 is described as a button that is pressed once the keyboard's transmitter (an infra-red emitter) is aimed at a selected computer. Amro, Col. 2, lines 50-55.

As amended Claim 21 is directed to a method of controlling multiple computing devices and requires the following limitations:

1. maintaining a list of available computing devices;
2. receiving data from a user, the data being associated with a user selection of an available computing device from the list;
3. using the received data to select a computing device;
4. establishing a wireless link between a peripheral device and the selected computing device; and
5. permitting the user to interact with said one computing device via said wireless link.

Nothing in Amro teaches maintaining a list of available computing devices or receiving data from a user that is associated with a user selection of an available computing device from the list and using the received data to select a computing device. Consequently, Claim 21 is felt to distinguish over Amro

Claims 22-24 each depend from Claim 21 and include all of the limitations of that base Claim. For the same reasons Claim 21 is patentable, so are Claims 22-24.

CLAIMS 1-20 AND 25

Claims 1-20 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the applicant's admitted prior art (APA) in view of Amro.

Claim 1 as amended is directed to a switching device requiring the following limitations:

1. a wireless transmitter;
2. a wireless receiver associated with the wireless transmitter;
3. a computer readable medium having instructions for:

- a. maintaining a list of available computing devices;
 - b. receiving a user communication selecting from among the list of available computing devices; and
 - c. utilizing the transmitter and the receiver to establish a wireless link between the peripheral device and a computing device selected from the list of available computing devices;
4. a processor operable to execute the instructions.

Nothing in the APA or in Amro teaches a computer readable medium having instructions for performing the tasks required by the third limitation above. For at least this reason, Claim 1 is felt to distinguish over the cited references. Claims 2-9 each depend from Claim 1 and include all of the limitations of that base Claim. For the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claims 2-9.

As amended, Claim 10 is directed to a computing system and requires the following limitations:

1. multiple computing devices, each of which being configured for wireless communication;
2. one or more peripheral devices configured to receive and transmit data; and
3. a switching device configured to:
 - a. maintain a list of available computing devices from among the multiple computing devices;
 - b. receive a user communication selecting from among the list of available computing devices; and
 - c. establish a wireless link between the peripheral device and a computing device selected from the list of available computing devices enabling wireless user interaction.

Nothing in the APA or in Amro teaches a switching device configured as required by the third limitation above. For at least this reason, Claim 10 is felt to distinguish over the cited references. Claims 11-15 each depend from Claim 10 and include all of the limitations of that base Claim. For the same reasons Claim 10 is patentable, so are Claims 11-15.

As amended, Claim 10 is directed to a computing system and requires the following limitations:

1. multiple computing devices, each of which being configured for wireless communication;
2. one or more peripheral devices linkable with the computing devices for data exchange; and
3. a switching device configured to
 - a. wirelessly receive and transmit data;
 - b. maintain a list of available computing devices from among the multiple computing devices;
 - c. receive a user communication selecting from among the list of available computing devices; and
 - d. establish a wireless link between the peripheral device and a computing device selected from the list of available computing devices enabling user interaction with the computing devices..

Nothing in the APA or in Amro teaches a switching device configured as required by the third limitation above. For at least this reason, Claim 16 is felt to distinguish over the cited references. Claims 17-20 each depend from Claim 16 and include all of the limitations of that base Claim. For the same reasons Claim 16 is patentable, so are Claims 17-20.

As amended Claim 25 is directed to a computer readable medium having instruction that when executed by a switching device perform the following tasks:

1. maintain a list of available computing devices;
2. receive data from a user, the data being associated with a user selection of an available computing device from the list;
3. use the received data to select a computing device;
4. establish a wireless link between a peripheral device and the selected computing device; and
5. permit the user to interact with said one computing device via said

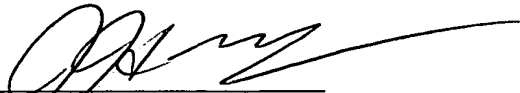
wireless link.

Nothing in the cited references teaches maintaining a list of available computing devices or receiving data from a user that is associated with a user selection of an available computing device from the list and using the received data to select a computing device. Consequently, Claim 25 is felt to distinguish over APA and Amro

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-25 define allowable subject matter. The Examiner is requested to indicate the allowability of all claims in the application and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

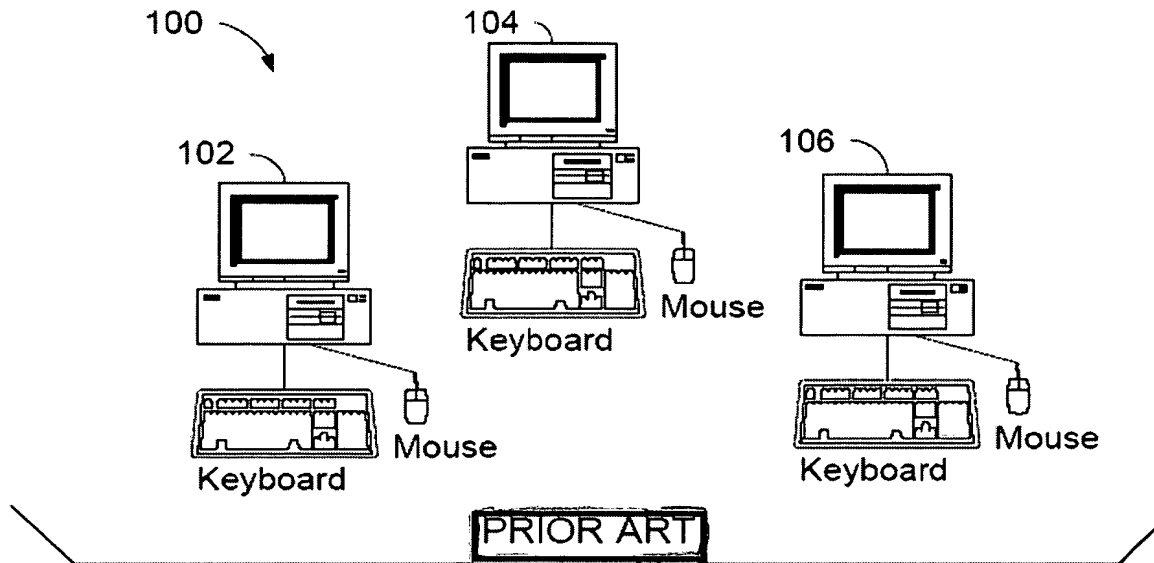


FIG. 1

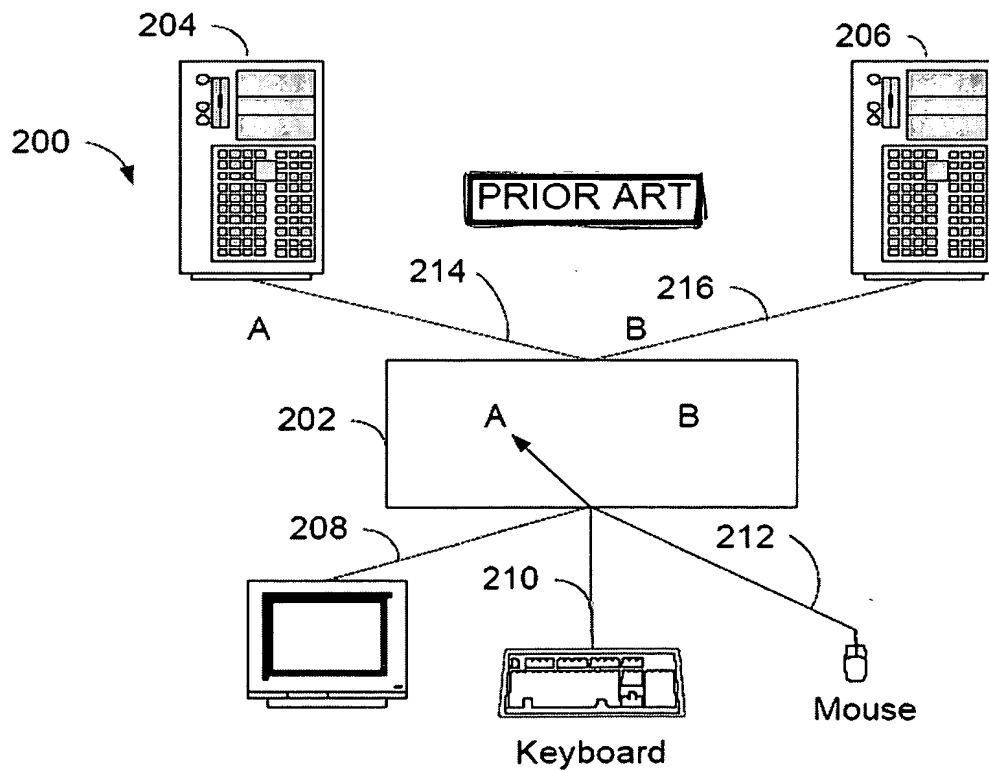


FIG. 2